

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents,
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Prior Application:

Examiner	Wortman, Donna C.
Art Unit	1648

Sir: This is a request for filing a ☒ Continuation ☐ Divisional

application, under 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b), of pending application Serial No. 09/194,949 filed on

February 17, 2000 (DATE) of John J. Donnelly; Margaret A. Liu; John W. Shiver; Tong-Ming Fu (INVENTOR)

for SYNTHETIC HEPATITIS C GENES

(TITLE OF INVENTION)

- The enclosed comprises a copy of prior application Serial No. 09/194,949, as filed on February 17, 2000. The entire disclosure of this prior application is hereby incorporated by reference.
- The filing fee is calculated below:

CLAIMS AS FILED IN THE PRIOR APPLICATION, LESS ANY CLAIMS CANCELED BY AMENDMENT BELOW

FOR	NUMBER FILED		NUMBER EXTRA			RATE	FEE	
Total Claims	20	-	20	0	x	\$18	\$0	
Independent Claims	1	-	3	0	x	\$84	\$0	
*Multiple Dependent Claims						\$280		
Basic Fee (minimum amount required)							\$750	
* Add this fee if application contains any multiple dependent claims, regardless of number.							\$750	

- The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required or to credit any overpayment to Account No. 13-2755.

- ☐ Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:
-- This is a ☐ continuation, ☐ division of application Serial No. _____, filed _____.
- ☐ Cancel in this application original claims: _____.
- ☒ Preliminary amendment enclosed.
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement/PTO-1449 enclosed.
- ☐ Transfer the drawings from the prior application to this application and abandon said prior application as of the filing date accorded this application. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed for filing in the prior application file.
- ☐ New formal drawings are enclosed.
- ☐ Priority of application Serial No. _____, filed _____, in _____ (COUNTRY) is claimed under 35 U.S.C. 119.
- ☐ The certified copy of the priority application has been filed in prior application Serial No. _____, filed _____.
- ☒ The prior application is assigned to Merck & Co., Inc., Rahway, New Jersey 07065.
- ☒ The undersigned attorney or agent has:
 - ☒ Power in the prior application as originally filed.
 - ☐ Associate power, copy enclosed.

Respectfully,



By: Sheldon O. Heber

Attorney _____ for Applicant(s)

Registration No. 38,179

Telephone: (732) 594-1958

Address: Merck & Co., Inc.
Patent Department
P.O. Box 2000 - RY60-30
Rahway, N.J. 07065-0907

Date: September 17, 2003

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

DATE OF DEPOSIT September 17, 2003

EXPRESS MAIL NO. EV323152815US

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS EXPRESS MAIL "POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE" ON THE ABOVE DATE IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313-1450.

MAILED BY  DATE 09/17/2003